

September 28, 2005

Bridgette K. Ellis, WT 11B-K

REQUEST FOR SECTION 26a APPROVAL FOR MCINTOSH COVE SUBDIVISION ON  
CHATUGE RESERVOIR, CLAY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA – FINAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
(FONSI)

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and TVA's implementing procedures, Environmental Policy and Planning has prepared a final EA and is issuing this FONSI, both of which are attached. This serves as documentation of TVA's environmental review. As stated in the FONSI, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the quality of the environment.

Jon M. Loney, Manager  
NEPA Administration  
Environmental Policy and Planning

HGR:TMH

Attachment: FONSI, Final Environmental Assessment

cc: E. R. Crews, MLO 1A-MRN (entire package)

M. H. Dunn, ET 11A-K

K. J. Jackson, WT 11A-K (FONSI only)

E. Robinson, ET 12A-K

Library, ET PC-K (entire package)

EDMS, SP 1D-C

Prepared by Helen G. Rucker; reviewed by T. Margueritte Wilson (RS) with concurrence of Harold M. Draper (EP&P), Khurshid K. Mehta (OGC), and Buff L. Crosby (RS)

McIntosh Cove FONSI\_FEA.doc



**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
**TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY**  
**MCINTOSH COVE SUBDIVISION WATER USE FACILITIES**  
**CHATUGE RESERVOIR, CLAY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

John D. Harrison, Jr., is developing a privately-owned subdivision called McIntosh Cove Subdivision and has requested approval under Section 26a of the TVA Act for individual water use facilities for 17 lakefront lots and a 30 slip community facility for backlying lots on Chatuge Reservoir at Sneaking Creek Mile 1.0R. Under the action alternative, TVA proposes to grant approval of the Section 26a application for the one community and 17 individual water use facilities. Under the No Action Alternative, TVA would not approve the requested water use facilities. However, the subdivision development would still be completed and the archeological site could still be potentially affected by upland activities on this privately-owned land.

The project was evaluated for potential impacts to federally-listed and state-listed threatened and endangered species, and to floodplains, surface water, aquatic habitat, wetlands, and cultural resources. Under Executive Order 11988, the project would be considered a repetitive action in the floodplain that would not result in adverse impacts. No listed threatened or endangered species or the unique or important habitats of such species, including the Green Pitcher Plant and the Eastern Hellbender, would be affected by the proposed action. No wetlands would be affected. TVA's General and Standard Conditions for BMPs for erosion and sediment control (General Condition 9 and Standard Conditions 3c, 6a, 6d, 6e, and 6i) would apply to the Section 26a approval for this project. Because this action would cause an adverse effect on archaeological site 31CY293 which is eligible for listing on the NRHP, TVA proposes to resolve this adverse effect by conducting a Phase III data recovery excavation. For compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been finalized, which addresses the mitigation of adverse effects to archaeological site 31CY293 by conducting a Phase III data recovery excavation. Based on the analysis in the attached TVA-prepared EA and the identified mitigation measures, we conclude that the TVA Section 26a approval of the request would not be a major federal action significantly affecting the environment. Accordingly, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

*Harold M. Draper for*

*September 28, 2005*

---

Jon M. Loney, Manager  
NEPA Administration  
Environmental Policy and Planning  
Tennessee Valley Authority

---

Date Signed